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Mayor's Message



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April is the month that is known for April Fools pranks and April showers. With the arrival of spring, most of us are emerging from our self-imposed winter "hibernation" to do outdoor activities, recreation, and yard work. Residents of all ages are enjoying walking, running and biking along the streets and trails within our city. With this increase in outdoor activity comes a caution and reminder to drive carefully and watch out for pedestrians!

In recent months we have had several children hit by vehicles in crosswalks near schools. Luckily none suffered life-threatening injuries, although at least two suffered serious injuries, including broken bones. All of these accidents were the result of inattentive driving, and the drivers were cited. Many distractions exist while driving, but according to the National Safety Council cell phones are a top distraction because so many drivers use them for long periods of time each day. I urge everyone who operates a vehicle to avoid distraction and to watch for pedestrians, runners, and bicyclists. Too many lives have been disrupted, destroyed, or lost due to preventable accidents.

April has been designated by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and National Safety Council as "Distracted Driving Awareness Month." Throughout the month, you can visit www.nhtsa.gov or www.nsc.org to learn more about what you can do to prevent automobile crashes.



On another springtime topic, I often get asked why Murray City doesn't provide cans for green waste. The answer is: we do, but maybe not in the traditional sense you are thinking about. For the residents who live in the areas served by Wasatch Front Recycling, green waste cans are available on a subscription basis for \$9.50 per month (after a one-time \$60.00 startup fee) billed quarterly.

For residents served by Ace Disposal and billed through Murray City, we encourage you to dispose of your green waste in your regular trash can, and here's why. The Trans-Jordan Landfill, which receives the waste from Murray, has indicated that they receive more than enough green waste to meet the demand for compost and woodchips, and green waste deposited into the landfill actually helps to break down the other trash deposited there. In addition, Murray City benefits from the capture of the methane gas created by the decomposing green waste as it is used to produce electricity in a small generating plant located at Trans-Jordan, which is part of Murray City Power's "green" portfolio. If you would like to add a can during the warm weather months, additional green waste cans are available for \$8.25 per month billed on your monthly utility statement.

I've heard that springtime is the perfect time to "turn over a new leaf!" I wish you all a bright and cheery April!